

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 4, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 1 side-emitting illumination device according to the invention;

FIG. 2A is a graph showing the angular distribution of light determined by the width of the paint stripe of 25° degree;

FIG. 2B is a graph showing the angular distribution of light determined by the width of the paint stripe of 45° degree;

Fig. 3 depicts an elliptical rod;

Fig. 4 depicts a rectangular rod;

Fig. 5 depicts a rod made up of curved and straight edges; and

Fig. 6 depicts an elliptical rod in accordance with an embodiment of the present system;

Fig. 7 depicts an elliptical rod in accordance with an embodiment of the present system;

FIG. 8 depicts a rod made up of straight and curved edges varying in configuration along the rod in accordance with an embodiment of the present system;

FIG. 9 depicts a sectional view A-A of the rod shown in FIG. 7, in accordance with an embodiment of the present system;
FIG. 10 depicts a sectional view B-B of the rod shown in FIG. 7, in accordance with an embodiment of the present system; and
FIG. 11 depicts a sectional view C-C of the rod shown in FIG. 7, in accordance with an embodiment of the present system.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 5, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

The calculations of angular width for FIGS. 2A and 2B are based on a round cross section rod. It is also possible to use other cross-sections. In particular, the cross-sections may be elliptical as shown in FIG. 3, square as shown in FIG. 4, or more generally, any combination of straight and curved edges as shown in FIG. 5, possibly varying in configuration along the length of the rod for example as ~~may be provided by a combination of any of the configurations shown in FIGs. 3-5~~shown in FIG. 8, illustrated by cross sectional views A-A, B-B, C-C respectively shown in FIGs. 9, 10, 11. These generalizations allow further control of the output angular distribution, permitting an inexpensive customization of

distinct illumination products. It is also possible to vary the width of the paint stripe along the rod to gain still more control of the output angular distribution.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 6, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

In many applications, it is desirable to have the outcoupled light intensity uniform along the rod. This can be achieved by correctly varying the effective paint density along the rod 6. The paint density needs to be lower close to the light source rather than far away from the light source. This is easily achieved by replacing the solid stripe of paint with a series of stripes 9 perpendicular to the length of the rod 6C ~~as shown in Fig. 6,~~ and varying the spacing between these small stripes as shown in Fig. 6, and/or the width of these stripes as shown in Fig. 7 (in the direction of the rod). Alternatively, the paint stripe can include fine white dots with varying packing density.